Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-05 USSS-00 MCT-01 SSM-05 IO-13 /103 W

R 141211Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9700 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 0218

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, AL, FR, XF

SUBJ: DUTCH REACTION TO RELEASE OF ABOU DAOUD

- 1. IN THE NETHERLANDS THE ABOU DAOUD INCIDENT PRODUCED LITTLE SPECIFIC CONDEMNATION OF FRANCE FOR ITS RELEASE OF THE SUSPECTED TERRORIST. DUTCH REACTION TENDED TOWARD A GENERAL LAMENTATION OF THE INABILITY OF WESTERN NATIONS EFFECTIVELY TO COMBAT TERRORISM.
- 2. CALVINIST TROUW COMMENTED THAT AN INITIAL FEELING OF FURY AT THE FRENCH DECISION MUST BE TEMPERED BY A REALIZATION OF "OUR POWERLESSNESS" TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST TERROR. TROUW FEELS THAT THE GERMANS ARE ALSO TO BLAME FOR NOT SHOWING ENOUGH EAGERNESS TO EXTRADITE AND PROSECUTE DAOUD. THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, THE EDITORIAL CONTINUES, SINCE NO NATION WANTS TO IMPRISON A WELL KNOWN TERRORIST ANDTHUS MAKE ITS OWN CITIZENS VULNERABLE TO RETALIATORY ATTACKS.
- 3. THE PRESTIGIOUS NRC HANDELSBLAD TOOK A DIM VIEW OF THE RELEASE BUT COMMENTED THAT THE FRENCH HAD UNCLASSIFIED

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LITTLE CHOICE SINCE THEY ARE NOW "FINLANDIZED" WITH RESPECT TO THE ARAB WORLD. THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM, NRC FEELS, LIES WITH THE STATES WHO GIVE SUPPORT AND SANCTUARY TO TERRORISTS.

4. SOME PAPERS HAD MORE STRONGLY WORDED CRITICISIM, BUT ALSO POINTE OUT EITHER FRANCES DIFFICULT ECONOMIC POSITON

OR THE RELIEF OTHER GOVERNMENTS MUST FEEL AT NOT HAVING TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION.

5. GON HAS MADE NO COMMENT BUT WILL HAVE TO EVENTUALLY SINCE A WRITTEN QUESTION WAS PUT TO FONMIN IN THE SECOND CHAMBER BY A LIBERAL MP. DUTCH ZIONIST GROUPS HAVE LODGED PROTESTS, AND THERE WAS A SMALL, PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY. MCCLOSKEY

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